

DPD 0080-62

3 January 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, Security Branch, Development Projects Division

SUBJECT : Defense Department Manuscript "RB-47 Flyers" by
William L. White, Jr.

1. I have read in rather cursory fashion the subject manuscript dealing with the McKone-Olmstead business, and while it is true that there are frequent references to the U-2, Francis Powers, illegal reconnaissance flights by CIA, etc., I do not feel that we are in a position to challenge their validity in view of the following considerations:

a. No statements are made about the Agency, Powers, the U-2, or the Powers trial which have not already appears in the public domain either in U. S. news reports or in the official Soviet version of the trial.

b. The Agency is not in a position to challenge the validity of alledged statements made to McCone and Olmstead by their Soviet interrogators involving CIA, Allen Dulles, etc., which are reported in the book. We have here in the Division a copy of the official transcript of the McCone-Olmstead debriefing by the Air Force, and nothing in this book is substantially different from what was contained there.

2. I assume that the writer will not be granted permission to indicate in his book at any point that the manuscript has been cleared by CIA, for in my opinion that in itself would be more damaging than anything the author says. Accordingly I suggest we simply let the matter take its normal course and leave most of the censoring to the DOD. The only actual point which I would question is the statement made on page 266 of the manuscript which reads, "The Defense Department stands mute". In view of our repeated assertions that DOD/USAF/SAC was not involved in the May 1 Incident, I submit that the use of the term "Defense Department" gives them a role which we would rather they not play. I therefore suggest "the American Government" or "the U. S. Government".

DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☒
(1) DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. AUTHORITY: FC S 3
REASON: FC S 3
DATE: 24/11/51 REVIEWER: _____

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
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